UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/C.12/1990/4
20 July 1990

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE

Provisional rules of procedure adopted by the Committee at its third session and approved by Economic and Social Council decision 1990/251

(Embodying amendment adopted by the Committee at its fourth session)

GE.90-17036/2375B

CONTENTS

Part one. GENERAL RULES

Rule		Page
	I. SESSIONS	
1.	Duration and venue of the sessions	1
2.	Dates of sessions	1
3.	Notification of the opening date of sessions	1
	II. AGENDA	
4.	Provisional agenda for the sessions	1
5.	Adoption of the agenda	2
6.	Revision of the agenda	2
7.	Transmission of the provisional agenda and basic documents	2
8.	Organization of work	2
	III. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE	
9.	Members	2
10.	Term of office	2
11.	Declaration of casual vacancies	3
12.	Filling of casual vacancies	3
13.	Solemn declaration	3
	IV. OFFICERS	
14.	Elections	4
15.	Term of office	4
16.	Position of the Chairman in relation to the Committee	4
17.	Acting Chairman	4
18.	Powers and duties of the Acting Chairman	4
19.	Replacement of officers	4
	V. SECRETARIAT	
20.	Duties of the Secretary-General	5
21.	Statements	5
22.	Keeping the members informed	5
23.	Financial implications of proposals	5
	VI. LANGUAGES	
24.	Official and working languages	5
25.	Interpretation	6
26.	Languages of records	6
27.	Languages of formal decisions and official documents	6

CONTENTS (continued)

Rule — Page

VII. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

28. Public and private meetings 6
29. Issue of communiqués concerning private meetings 6

VIII. RECORDS

30. Summary records of the proceedings and corrections to them 7

IX. DISTRIBUTION OF REPORTS AND OTHER OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

31. Distribution of official documents 7

X. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

32. Quorum 7
33. Powers of the Chairman 7
34. Time-limit for statements 8
35. List of speakers 8
36. Points of order 8
37. Suspension or adjournment of meetings 8
38. Adjournment of debate 8
39. Closure of debate 8
40. Order of motions 9
41. Submission of proposals 9
42. Decisions on competence 9
43. Withdrawal of motions 9
44. Reconsideration of proposals 9

XI. VOTING

45. Voting rights 10
46. Adoption of decisions 10
47. Equally divided votes 10
48. Method of voting 10
49. Conduct during voting and explanation of votes 10
50. Division of proposals 10
51. Order of voting on amendments 11
52. Order of voting on proposals 11

XII. ELECTIONS

53. Methods of elections 11
54. Conduct of elections when only one elective place is to be filled 11
55. Conduct of elections when two or more elective places are to be filled 12

XIII. SUBSIDIARY BODIES

56. *Ad hoc* subsidiary bodies 12

READEX

CONTENTS (continued)

Rule — Page

XIV. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

57. Annual report 13

Part two. RULES RELATING TO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

XV. REPORTS FROM STATES PARTIES UNDER ARTICLES 16 AND 17 OF THE COVENANT

58. Submission of reports 13
59. Non-submission of reports 13
60. Form and content of reports 14
61. Consideration of reports 14
62. Attendance by States parties at examination of reports 14
63. Request for additional information 14
64. Suggestions and recommendations 15
65. General comments 15

XVI. REPORTS FROM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES UNDER ARTICLE 18 OF THE COVENANT

66. Submission of reports 15
67. Consideration of reports 15
68. Participation of specialized agencies 16

XVII. OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

69. Submission of information, documentation and written statements 16

Part three. INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS

XVIII. INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS

70. Underlined headings 16
71. Amendments 16
72. Approval of and modification by the Council 16

Part one

GENERAL RULES

I. SESSIONS

Duration and venue of the sessions

Rule 1

The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") shall meet annually for a period of up to three weeks, or as may be decided by the Economic and Social Council (hereinafter referred to as "the Council") taking into account the number of reports to be examined by the Committee. Sessions of the Committee shall be held at Geneva or wherever the Council so decides.

Dates of sessions

Rule 2

Sessions of the Committee shall be convened at dates decided by the Council in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as "the Secretary-General").

Notification of the opening date of sessions

Rule 3

The Secretary-General shall notify the members of the Committee of the date of the first meeting of each session. Such notifications shall be sent at least six weeks in advance of the session.

II. AGENDA

Provisional agenda for the sessions

Rule 4

The provisional agenda of each session shall be prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and shall include:

(a) Any item decided upon by the Committee at a previous session;

(b) Any item proposed by the Council in fulfilment of its responsibilities under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (hereinafter referred to as "the Covenant");

(c) Any item proposed by the Chairman of the Committee;

(d) Any item proposed by a State party to the Covenant;

(e) Any item proposed by a member of the Committee;

(f) Any item proposed by the Secretary-General.

Adoption of the agenda

Rule 5

The first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda, except for the election of the officers when required under rule 14 of these rules.

Revision of the agenda

Rule 6

During a session, the Committee may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, add, delete or defer items.

Transmission of the provisional agenda and basic documents

Rule 7

The provisional agenda and basic documents relating to items appearing thereon shall be transmitted to the members of the Committee by the Secretary-General as early as possible.

Organization of work

Rule 8

At the beginning of each session the Committee shall consider appropriate organizational matters, including the schedule of its meetings and the possibility of holding a general discussion on the measures adopted and the progress made in achieving the observance of the rights recognized in the Covenant.

III. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Members

Rule 9

Members of the Committee shall be the 18 experts elected by the Council in accordance with paragraphs (b) and (c) of its resolution 1985/17.

Term of office

Rule 10

The term of office of members elected to the Committee shall begin on 1 January following their election and expire on the 31 December following the election of members that are to succeed them as members of the Committee.

Declaration of casual vacancies

Rule 11

1. If, in the unanimous opinion of the other members, a member of the Committee has ceased to carry out his functions for any cause other than absence of a temporary character, the Chairman of the Committee shall notify the Secretary-General, who shall then declare the seat of that member to be vacant.

2. In the event of the death or the resignation of a member of the Committee, the Chairman shall immediately notify the Secretary-General, who shall declare the seat vacant from the date of death or the date on which the resignation takes effect. The resignation of a member of the Committee shall be notified by the member in writing directly to the Chairman or the Secretary-General and action shall be taken to declare the seat vacant only after such notification has been received.

Filling of casual vacancies

Rule 12

1. When a vacancy is declared in accordance with rule 11 of these rules and if the term of office of the member to be replaced does not expire within six months of the declaration of the vacancy, the Secretary-General shall notify each of the States parties of the regional group to which the vacant seat in the Committee is allocated in accordance with paragraph (b) of Council resolution 1985/17. Those States parties may within two months submit nominations in accordance with the relevant provisions of paragraphs (b) and (c) of the same resolution.

2. The Secretary-General shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of the persons thus nominated and shall submit it to the Council. The Council shall hold the election to fill the vacancy in the Committee in accordance with the procedure established in paragraph (c) of its resolution 1985/17. The election shall take place at the session of the Council following the deadline for the submission of nominations for the vacant seat.

3. A member of the Committee elected to fill the vacancy declared in accordance with rule 11 of these rules shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the member who vacated the seat on the Committee.

Solemn declaration

Rule 13

Before assuming his duties, each member of the Committee shall make the following solemn declaration in open Committee:

> "I solemnly undertake to discharge my duties as a member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights impartially and conscientiously."

IV. OFFICERS

Elections

Rule 14

The Committee shall elect from among its members a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur, with due regard for equitable geographical representation.

Term of office

Rule 15

The officers of the Committee shall be elected for a term of two years. They shall be eligible for re-election. None of them, however, may hold office if he or she ceases to be a member of the Committee.

Position of the Chairman in relation to the Committee

Rule 16

The Chairman shall perform the functions conferred upon him by the rules of procedure and the decisions of the Committee. In the exercise of those functions, the Chairman shall remain under the authority of the Committee.

Acting Chairman

Rule 17

If during a session the Chairman is unable to be present at a meeting or any part thereof, he or she shall designate one of the Vice-Chairmen to act in his or her place.

Powers and duties of the Acting Chairman

Rule 18

A Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

Replacement of officers

Rule 19

If any of the officers of the Committee ceases to serve or declares inability to continue serving as a member of the Committee or for any reason is no longer able to act as an officer, a new officer shall be elected for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.

V. SECRETARIAT

Duties of the Secretary-General

Rule 20

1. The secretariat of the Committee and of such subsidiary bodies as may be established by the Committee shall be provided by the Secretary-General.

2. The Secretary-General shall provide the Committee with the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of its functions, bearing in mind the need to give adequate publicity to its work.

Statements

Rule 21

The Secretary-General or his representative shall attend all meetings of the Committee and, subject to rule 33 of these rules, may make oral or written statements at meetings of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies.

Keeping the members informed

Rule 22

The Secretary-General shall be responsible for informing the members of the Committee without delay of any questions which may be brought before it for consideration.

Financial implications of proposals

Rule 23

Before any proposal which involves expenditure is approved by the Committee or by any of its subsidiary bodies, the Secretary-General shall prepare and circulate to the members of the Committee or subsidiary body, as early as possible, an estimate of the cost involved in the proposal. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to draw the attention of members to this estimate and to invite discussion on it when the proposal is considered by the Committee or subsidiary body.

VI. LANGUAGES

Official and working languages

Rule 24

Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the official languages of the Committee and English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the working languages of the Committee.

Interpretation

Rule 25

1. Statements made in an official language shall be interpreted into the other official languages.

2. A speaker may make a statement in a language other than an official language if he provides for interpretation into one of the official languages. Interpretation into the other official languages by the interpreters of the Secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first such language.

Languages of records

Rule 26

Summary records of the meetings of the Committee shall be drawn up and distributed in English, French and Spanish.

Languages of formal decisions and official documents

Rule 27

All formal decisions of the Committee to be submitted to the Council shall be made available in the official languages of the Council. All other official documents of the Committee shall be issued in the working languages and any of them may, if the Council so decides, be issued in all the official languages of the Council.

VII. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

Public and private meetings

Rule 28

The meetings of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies shall be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise.

Issue of communiqués concerning private meetings

Rule 29

At the close of each private meeting the Committee or its subsidiary body may issue a communiqué through the Secretary-General for the use of the information media and the general public regarding the activities of the Committee at its closed meetings.

VIII. RECORDS

Summary records of the proceedings and corrections to them

Rule 30

1. The Secretary-General shall provide the Committee with summary records of its proceedings, which shall be made available to the Council at the same time as the report of the Committee.

2. Summary records are subject to correction to be submitted by participants in the meetings to the Secretariat in the language in which the summary record is issued. Corrections to the records of the meetings shall be consolidated in a single corrigendum to be issued shortly after the end of the session concerned.

IX. DISTRIBUTION OF REPORTS AND OTHER OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Distribution of official documents

Rule 31

Reports, formal decisions and all other official documents of the Committee shall be documents of general distribution unless the Committee decides otherwise.

X. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Quorum

Rule 32

Twelve members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Powers of the Chairman

Rule 33

The Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Committee, direct the discussion, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The Chairman, subject to these rules, shall have control over the proceedings of the Committee and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. The Chairman may, in the course of the discussion of an item, propose to the Committee the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers, the limitation of the number of times each speaker may speak on any question and the closure of the list of speakers. He or she shall rule on points of order and shall also have the power to propose adjournment or closure of the debate or adjournment or suspension of a meeting. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Committee, and the Chairman may call a speaker to order if his or her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Time-limit for statements

Rule 34

The Committee may limit the time allowed to each speaker on any question. When debate is limited and a speaker exceeds his allotted time, the Chairman shall call him or her to order without delay.

List of speakers

Rule 35

During the course of a debate, the Chairman may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Committee, declare the list closed. The Chairman may, however, accord the right of reply to any member or representative if a statement delivered after the list is declared closed makes this desirable. When the debate on an item is concluded because there are no other speakers, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by the consent of the Committee.

Points of order

Rule 36

During the discussion of any matter, a member may at any time raise a point of order, and the point of order shall immediately be decided upon by the Chairman in accordance with the rules of procedure. Any appeal against the ruling of the Chairman shall immediately be put to the vote, and the ruling of the Chairman shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present. A member may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Suspension or adjournment of meetings

Rule 37

During the discussion of any matter, a member may move the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motions shall be permitted, and they shall immediately be put to the vote.

Adjournment of debate

Rule 38

During the discussion of any matter, a member may move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one member may speak in favour of and one against the motion, after which the motion shall immediately be put to the vote.

Closure of debate

Rule 39

1. When the debate on an item is concluded because there are no other speakers, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by the consent of the Committee.

2. A member may at any time move the closure of the debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other member or representative has signified his wish to speak. Permission to speak on the closure of the debate shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the closure, after which the motion shall immediately be put to the vote.

Order of motions

Rule 40

Subject to rule 36 of these rules, the following motions shall have precedence in the following order over all other proposals or motions before the meeting:

(a) To suspend the meeting;

(b) To adjourn the meeting;

(c) To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;

(d) To close the debate on the item under discussion.

Submission of proposals

Rule 41

Unless otherwise decided by the Committee, proposals and substantive amendments or motions submitted by members shall be introduced in writing and handed to the Secretariat, and their consideration shall, if so requested by any member, be deferred until the next meeting on a subsequent day.

Decisions on competence

Rule 42

Subject to rule 40 of these rules, any motion by a member calling for a decision on the competence of the Committee to adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote immediately before a vote is taken on the proposal in question.

Withdrawal of motions

Rule 43

A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting on it has commenced, provided that the motion has not been amended. A motion which has thus been withdrawn may be reintroduced by any member.

Reconsideration of proposals

Rule 44

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Committee so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers in favour of the

motion and two speakers opposing the motion, after which it shall immediately be put to the vote.

XI. VOTING

Voting rights

Rule 45

Each member of the Committee shall have one vote.

Adoption of decisions

Rule 46

Decisions of the Committee shall be made by a majority of the members present. However, the Committee shall endeavour to work on the basis of the principle of consensus.

Equally divided votes

Rule 47

If a vote is equally divided on a matter other than an election, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

Method of voting

Rule 48

1. Subject to rule 53 of these rules, the Committee shall normally vote by show of hands, except that any member may request a roll-call, which shall then be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members of the Committee, beginning with the member whose name is drawn by lot by the Chairman.

2. The vote of each member participating in a roll-call shall be inserted in the record.

Conduct during voting and explanation of votes

Rule 49

After the voting has commenced, there shall be no interruption of the voting except on a point of order by a member in connection with the actual conduct of the voting. Brief statements by members consisting solely of explanations of their votes may be permitted by the Chairman before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed.

Division of proposals

Rule 50

Parts of a proposal shall be voted on separately if a member requests that the proposal be divided. Those parts of the proposal which have been

approved shall then be put to the vote as a whole; if all the operative parts of a proposal have been rejected, the proposal shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

Order of voting on amendments

Rule 51

1. When an amendment to a proposal is moved, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments to a proposal are moved, the Committee shall first vote on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom and so on until all amendments have been put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon.

2. A motion is considered an amendment to a proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal.

Order of voting on proposals

Rule 52

1. If two or more proposals relate to the same question, the Committee shall, unless it decides otherwise, vote on the proposals in the order in which they have been submitted.

2. The Committee may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

3. Any motion requiring that no decision be taken on the substance of such proposals shall, however, be considered as previous questions and shall be put to the vote before them.

XII. ELECTIONS

Methods of elections

Rule 53

Elections shall be held by secret ballot, unless the Committee decides otherwise in the case of an election to fill a place for which there is only one candidate.

Conduct of elections when only one elective place is to be filled

Rule 54

1. When only one elective place is to be filled, and no candidate obtains in the first ballot the majority required, a second ballot shall be taken, which shall be restricted to the two candidates who obtained the greatest number of votes.

2. If the second ballot is inconclusive and a majority vote of members present is required, a third ballot shall be taken in which votes may be cast

for any eligible candidate. If the third ballot is inconclusive, the next ballot shall be restricted to the two candidates who obtained the greatest number of votes in the third ballot and so on, with unrestricted and restricted ballots alternating, until a candidate is elected.

3. If the second ballot is inconclusive and a two-thirds majority is required, the balloting shall be continued until one candidate secures the necessary two-thirds majority. In the next three ballots, votes may be cast for any eligible candidate. If three such unrestricted ballots are inconclusive, the next three ballots shall be restricted to the two candidates who obtained the greatest number of votes in the third such unrestricted ballot, and the following three ballots shall be unrestricted and so on until a candidate is elected.

Conduct of elections when two or more elective places are to be filled

Rule 55

When two or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates obtaining in the first ballot the majority required shall be elected. If the number of candidates obtaining the required majority is less than the number of members to be elected, there shall be additional ballots to fill the remaining places, the voting being restricted to the candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot and to a number no more than twice the places remaining to be filled; provided that, after the third inconclusive ballot, votes may be cast for any eligible candidate. If three such unrestricted ballots are inconclusive, the next three ballots shall be restricted to the candidates who obtained the greatest number of votes in the third of the unrestricted ballots and to a number not more than twice the places remaining to be filled. The following three ballots thereafter shall be unrestricted, and so on until all the places have been filled.

XIII. SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Ad hoc subsidiary bodies

Rule 56

1. Subject to rule 24, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, the Committee may set up ad hoc subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions, and define their composition and powers.

2. Each subsidiary body shall elect its own officers and may adopt its own rules of procedure. Failing such rules, the present rules of procedure shall apply mutatis mutandis.

XIV. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Annual report

Rule 57

1. The Committee shall submit to the Council an annual report on its activities, including a summary of its consideration of reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant. The report may include general observations by members of the Committee on the basis of their consideration of States parties' reports. A list of States parties to the Covenant shall be annexed to the report of the Committee together with an indication of the status of submission of reports by States parties.

2. The Committee shall also include in its report suggestions and recommendations of a general nature referred to under rule 64 of these rules of procedure.

Part two

RULES RELATING TO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

XV. REPORTS FROM STATES PARTIES UNDER ARTICLES 16 AND 17 OF THE COVENANT

Submission of reports

Rule 58

1. In accordance with article 16 of the Covenant, the States parties shall submit to the Council for consideration by the Committee reports on the measures which they have adopted and progress made in achieving the observance of the rights recognized in the Covenant.

2. In accordance with article 17 of the Covenant and Council resolution 1988/4, the States parties shall submit their initial reports within two years of the entry into force of the Covenant for the State party concerned and thereafter periodic reports at five-year intervals.

Non-submission of reports

Rule 59

1. At each session, the Secretary-General shall notify the Committee of all cases of non-submission of reports under rule 58 of these rules. In such cases the Committee may recommend to the Council to transmit to the State party concerned, through the Secretary-General, a reminder concerning the submission of such reports.

2. If, after the reminder referred to in paragraph 1 of this rule, the State party does not submit the report required under rule 58 of these rules, the Committee shall so state in the annual report which it submits to the Council.

Form and content of reports

Rule 60

1. Upon approval of the Council, the Committee may inform the States parties, through the Secretary-General, of its wishes regarding the form and contents of the reports to be submitted under article 16 of the Covenant and the programme established by Council resolution 1988/4.

2. The general guidelines for reports by the States parties may, when necessary, be considered by the Committee with a view to making suggestions for their improvement.

Consideration of reports

Rule 61

1. The Committee shall consider the reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant in accordance with the programme established by Council resolution 1988/4.

2. The Committee shall normally consider the reports submitted by States parties under article 16 of the Covenant in the order in which they have been received by the Secretary-General.

3. Reports of the States parties scheduled for consideration by the Committee shall be made available to the members of the Committee at least six weeks before the opening of the session of the Committee. Any reports by States parties received by the Secretary-General for processing less than 12 weeks before the opening of the session shall be made available to the Committee at its session in the following year.

Attendance by States parties at examination of reports

Rule 62

1. Representatives of the reporting States are entitled to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined. Such representatives should be able to make statements on the reports submitted by their States and reply to questions which may be put to them by the members of the Committee.

2. The Secretary-General shall notify the States parties as early as possible of the opening date and duration of the session of the Committee at which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration. For the meetings referred to in the preceding paragraph, representatives of the States parties concerned shall be specially invited to attend.

Request for additional information

Rule 63

1. When considering a report submitted by a State party under article 16 of the Covenant, the Committee shall first satisfy itself that the report provides all the information required under existing guidelines.

2. If a report of a State party to the Covenant, in the opinion of the Committee, does not contain sufficient information, the Committee may request the State concerned to furnish the additional information which is required, indicating the manner as well as the time within which the said information should be submitted.

Suggestions and recommendations

Rule 64

The Committee shall make suggestions and recommendations of a general nature on the basis of its consideration of reports submitted by States parties and of the reports submitted by the specialized agencies in order to assist the Council to fulfil, in particular, its responsibilities under articles 21 and 22 of the Covenant. The Committee may also make suggestions for the consideration by the Council with reference to articles 19 and 23 of the Covenant.

General comments

Rule 65

The Committee may prepare general comments based on the various articles and provisions of the Covenant with a view to assisting States parties in fulfilling their reporting obligations.

XVI. REPORTS FROM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES UNDER ARTICLE 18 OF THE COVENANT

Submission of reports

Rule 66

In accordance with the provisions of article 18 of the Covenant and the arrangements made by the Council thereunder, the specialized agencies are called upon to submit reports on the progress made in achieving the observance of the provisions of the Covenant falling within the scope of their activities. These reports may include particulars of decisions and recommendations on such implementation adopted by their competent organs.

Consideration of reports

Rule 67

The Committee is entrusted with the task of considering the reports of the specialized agencies, submitted to the Council in accordance with article 18 of the Covenant and the programme established under Council resolution 1988 (LX).

Participation of specialized agencies

Rule 68

The specialized agencies concerned shall be invited to designate representatives to participate at the meetings of the Committee. Such representatives may make general statements on matters falling within the scope of the activities of their respective organizations at the end of the discussion by the Committee of the report of each State party to the Covenant. The representatives of the States parties presenting reports to the Committee shall be free to respond to, or take into account, the statements made by the specialized agencies.

XVII. OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Submission of information, documentation and written statements

Rule 69

1. Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council may submit to the Committee written statements that might contribute to full and universal recognition and realization of the rights contained in the Covenant.

2. The Committee may recommend to the Council to invite United Nations bodies concerned and regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to it information, documentation and written statements, as appropriate, relevant to its activities under the Covenant.

Part three

INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS

XVIII. INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS

Underlined headings

Rule 70

The underlined headings of these rules, which were inserted for reference purposes only, shall be disregarded in the interpretation of the rules.

Amendments

Rule 71

These rules of procedure may be amended by a decision of the Committee, subject to approval of the Council.

Approval of and modification by the Council

Rule 72

These rules of procedure are subject to the approval by the Council and shall remain in force in so far as they are not superseded or modified by decisions of the Council.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/C.12/1990/4 */
10 October 1990

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE

Provisional rules of procedure adopted by the Committee at its third session and approved by Economic and Social Council decision 1990/251

(Embodying amendment adopted by the Committee at its fourth session)

---

*/ Re-issued for technical reasons.

GE.90-17838/2475B

CONTENTS

Part one. GENERAL RULES

Rule		Page
	I. SESSIONS	
1.	Duration and venue of the sessions	1
2.	Dates of sessions	1
3.	Notification of the opening date of sessions	1
	II. AGENDA	
4.	Provisional agenda for the sessions	1
5.	Adoption of the agenda	2
6.	Revision of the agenda	2
7.	Transmission of the provisional agenda and basic documents	2
8.	Organization of work	2
	III. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE	
9.	Members	2
10.	Term of office	2
11.	Declaration of casual vacancies	3
12.	Filling of casual vacancies	3
13.	Solemn declaration	3
	IV. OFFICERS	
14.	Elections	4
15.	Term of office	4
16.	Position of the Chairman in relation to the Committee	4
17.	Acting Chairman	4
18.	Powers and duties of the Acting Chairman	4
19.	Replacement of officers	4
	V. SECRETARIAT	
20.	Duties of the Secretary-General	5
21.	Statements	5
22.	Keeping the members informed	5
23.	Financial implications of proposals	5
	VI. LANGUAGES	
24.	Official and working languages	5
25.	Interpretation	6
26.	Languages of records	6
27.	Languages of formal decisions and official documents	6

CONTENTS (continued)

Rule		Page
	VII. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS	
28.	Public and private meetings	6
29.	Issue of communiqués concerning private meetings	6
	VIII. RECORDS	
30.	Summary records of the proceedings and corrections to them	7
	IX. DISTRIBUTION OF REPORTS AND OTHER OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE	
31.	Distribution of official documents	7
	X. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS	
32.	Quorum	7
33.	Powers of the Chairman	7
34.	Time-limit for statements	8
35.	List of speakers	8
36.	Points of order	8
37.	Suspension or adjournment of meetings	8
38.	Adjournment of debate	8
39.	Closure of debate	8
40.	Order of motions	9
41.	Submission of proposals	9
42.	Decisions on competence	9
43.	Withdrawal of motions	9
44.	Reconsideration of proposals	9
	XI. VOTING	
45.	Voting rights	10
46.	Adoption of decisions	10
47.	Equally divided votes	10
48.	Method of voting	10
49.	Conduct during voting and explanation of votes	10
50.	Division of proposals	10
51.	Order of voting on amendments	11
52.	Order of voting on proposals	11
	XII. ELECTIONS	
53.	Methods of elections	11
54.	Conduct of elections when only one elective place is to be filled	11
55.	Conduct of elections when two or more elective places are to be filled	12
	XIII. SUBSIDIARY BODIES	
56.	*Ad hoc* subsidiary bodies	12

CONTENTS (continued)

Rule — Page

XIV. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

57. Annual report 13

Part two. RULES RELATING TO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

XV. REPORTS FROM STATES PARTIES UNDER ARTICLES 16 AND 17 OF THE COVENANT

58. Submission of reports 13
59. Non-submission of reports 13
60. Form and content of reports 14
61. Consideration of reports 14
62. Attendance by States parties at examination of reports 14
63. Request for additional information 14
64. Suggestions and recommendations 15
65. General comments 15

XVI. REPORTS FROM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES UNDER ARTICLE 18 OF THE COVENANT

66. Submission of reports 15
67. Consideration of reports 15
68. Participation of specialized agencies 16

XVII. OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

69. Submission of information, documentation and written statements 16

Part three. INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS

XVIII. INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS

70. Underlined headings 16
71. Amendments 16
72. Approval of and modification by the Council 16

Part one

GENERAL RULES

I. SESSIONS

Duration and venue of the sessions

Rule 1

The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") shall meet annually for a period of up to three weeks, or as may be decided by the Economic and Social Council (hereinafter referred to as "the Council") taking into account the number of reports to be examined by the Committee. Sessions of the Committee shall be held at Geneva or wherever the Council so decides.

Dates of sessions

Rule 2

Sessions of the Committee shall be convened at dates decided by the Council in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as "the Secretary-General").

Notification of the opening date of sessions

Rule 3

The Secretary-General shall notify the members of the Committee of the date of the first meeting of each session. Such notifications shall be sent at least six weeks in advance of the session.

II. AGENDA

Provisional agenda for the sessions

Rule 4

The provisional agenda of each session shall be prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and shall include:

(a) Any item decided upon by the Committee at a previous session;

(b) Any item proposed by the Council in fulfilment of its responsibilities under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (hereinafter referred to as "the Covenant");

(c) Any item proposed by the Chairman of the Committee;

(d) Any item proposed by a State party to the Covenant;

(e) Any item proposed by a member of the Committee;

(f) Any item proposed by the Secretary-General.

Adoption of the agenda

Rule 5

The first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda, except for the election of the officers when required under rule 14 of these rules.

Revision of the agenda

Rule 6

During a session, the Committee may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, add, delete or defer items.

Transmission of the provisional agenda and basic documents

Rule 7

The provisional agenda and basic documents relating to items appearing thereon shall be transmitted to the members of the Committee by the Secretary-General as early as possible.

Organization of work

Rule 8

At the beginning of each session the Committee shall consider appropriate organizational matters, including the schedule of its meetings and the possibility of holding a general discussion on the measures adopted and the progress made in achieving the observance of the rights recognized in the Covenant.

III. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Members

Rule 9

Members of the Committee shall be the 18 experts elected by the Council in accordance with paragraphs (b) and (c) of its resolution 1985/17.

Term of office

Rule 10

The term of office of members elected to the Committee shall begin on 1 January following their election and expire on the 31 December following the election of members that are to succeed them as members of the Committee.

Declaration of casual vacancies

Rule 11

1. If, in the unanimous opinion of the other members, a member of the Committee has ceased to carry out his functions for any cause other than absence of a temporary character, the Chairman of the Committee shall notify the Secretary-General, who shall then declare the seat of that member to be vacant.

2. In the event of the death or the resignation of a member of the Committee, the Chairman shall immediately notify the Secretary-General, who shall declare the seat vacant from the date of death or the date on which the resignation takes effect. The resignation of a member of the Committee shall be notified by the member in writing directly to the Chairman or the Secretary-General and action shall be taken to declare the seat vacant only after such notification has been received.

Filling of casual vacancies

Rule 12

1. When a vacancy is declared in accordance with rule 11 of these rules and if the term of office of the member to be replaced does not expire within six months of the declaration of the vacancy, the Secretary-General shall notify each of the States parties of the regional group to which the vacant seat in the Committee is allocated in accordance with paragraph (b) of Council resolution 1985/17. Those States parties may within two months submit nominations in accordance with the relevant provisions of paragraphs (b) and (c) of the same resolution.

2. The Secretary-General shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of the persons thus nominated and shall submit it to the Council. The Council shall hold the election to fill the vacancy in the Committee in accordance with the procedure established in paragraph (c) of its resolution 1985/17. The election shall take place at the session of the Council following the deadline for the submission of nominations for the vacant seat.

3. A member of the Committee elected to fill the vacancy declared in accordance with rule 11 of these rules shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the member who vacated the seat on the Committee.

Solemn declaration

Rule 13

Before assuming his duties, each member of the Committee shall make the following solemn declaration in open Committee:

"I solemnly undertake to discharge my duties as a member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights impartially and conscientiously."

IV. OFFICERS

Elections

Rule 14

The Committee shall elect from among its members a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur, with due regard for equitable geographical representation.

Term of office

Rule 15

The officers of the Committee shall be elected for a term of two years. They shall be eligible for re-election. None of them, however, may hold office if he or she ceases to be a member of the Committee.

Position of the Chairman in relation to the Committee

Rule 16

The Chairman shall perform the functions conferred upon him by the rules of procedure and the decisions of the Committee. In the exercise of those functions, the Chairman shall remain under the authority of the Committee.

Acting Chairman

Rule 17

If during a session the Chairman is unable to be present at a meeting or any part thereof, he or she shall designate one of the Vice-Chairmen to act in his or her place.

Powers and duties of the Acting Chairman

Rule 18

A Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

Replacement of officers

Rule 19

If any of the officers of the Committee ceases to serve or declares inability to continue serving as a member of the Committee or for any reason is no longer able to act as an officer, a new officer shall be elected for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.

V. SECRETARIAT

Duties of the Secretary-General

Rule 20

1. The secretariat of the Committee and of such subsidiary bodies as may be established by the Committee shall be provided by the Secretary-General.

2. The Secretary-General shall provide the Committee with the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of its functions, bearing in mind the need to give adequate publicity to its work.

Statements

Rule 21

The Secretary-General or his representative shall attend all meetings of the Committee and, subject to rule 33 of these rules, may make oral or written statements at meetings of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies.

Keeping the members informed

Rule 22

The Secretary-General shall be responsible for informing the members of the Committee without delay of any questions which may be brought before it for consideration.

Financial implications of proposals

Rule 23

Before any proposal which involves expenditure is approved by the Committee or by any of its subsidiary bodies, the Secretary-General shall prepare and circulate to the members of the Committee or subsidiary body, as early as possible, an estimate of the cost involved in the proposal. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to draw the attention of members to this estimate and to invite discussion on it when the proposal is considered by the Committee or subsidiary body.

VI. LANGUAGES

Official and working languages

Rule 24

Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the official languages of the Committee and English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the working languages of the Committee.

Interpretation

Rule 25

1. Statements made in an official language shall be interpreted into the other official languages.

2. A speaker may make a statement in a language other than an official language if he provides for interpretation into one of the official languages. Interpretation into the other official languages by the interpreters of the Secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first such language.

Languages of records

Rule 26

Summary records of the meetings of the Committee shall be drawn up and distributed in English, French and Spanish.

Languages of formal decisions and official documents

Rule 27

All formal decisions of the Committee to be submitted to the Council shall be made available in the official languages of the Council. All other official documents of the Committee shall be issued in the working languages and any of them may, if the Council so decides, be issued in all the official languages of the Council.

VII. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

Public and private meetings

Rule 28

The meetings of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies shall be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise.

Issue of communiqués concerning private meetings

Rule 29

At the close of each private meeting the Committee or its subsidiary body may issue a communiqué through the Secretary-General for the use of the information media and the general public regarding the activities of the Committee at its closed meetings.

VIII. RECORDS

Summary records of the proceedings and corrections to them

Rule 30

1. The Secretary-General shall provide the Committee with summary records of its proceedings, which shall be made available to the Council at the same time as the report of the Committee.

2. Summary records are subject to correction to be submitted by participants in the meetings to the Secretariat in the language in which the summary record is issued. Corrections to the records of the meetings shall be consolidated in a single corrigendum to be issued shortly after the end of the session concerned.

IX. DISTRIBUTION OF REPORTS AND OTHER OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Distribution of official documents

Rule 31

Reports, formal decisions and all other official documents of the Committee shall be documents of general distribution unless the Committee decides otherwise.

X. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Quorum

Rule 32

Twelve members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Powers of the Chairman

Rule 33

The Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Committee, direct the discussion, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The Chairman, subject to these rules, shall have control over the proceedings of the Committee and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. The Chairman may, in the course of the discussion of an item, propose to the Committee the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers, the limitation of the number of times each speaker may speak on any question and the closure of the list of speakers. He or she shall rule on points of order and shall also have the power to propose adjournment or closure of the debate or adjournment or suspension of a meeting. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Committee, and the Chairman may call a speaker to order if his or her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Time-limit for statements

Rule 34

The Committee may limit the time allowed to each speaker on any question. When debate is limited and a speaker exceeds his allotted time, the Chairman shall call him or her to order without delay.

List of speakers

Rule 35

During the course of a debate, the Chairman may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Committee, declare the list closed. The Chairman may, however, accord the right of reply to any member or representative if a statement delivered after the list is declared closed makes this desirable. When the debate on an item is concluded because there are no other speakers, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by the consent of the Committee.

Points of order

Rule 36

During the discussion of any matter, a member may at any time raise a point of order, and the point of order shall immediately be decided upon by the Chairman in accordance with the rules of procedure. Any appeal against the ruling of the Chairman shall immediately be put to the vote, and the ruling of the Chairman shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present. A member may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Suspension or adjournment of meetings

Rule 37

During the discussion of any matter, a member may move the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motions shall be permitted, and they shall immediately be put to the vote.

Adjournment of debate

Rule 38

During the discussion of any matter, a member may move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one member may speak in favour of and one against the motion, after which the motion shall immediately be put to the vote.

Closure of debate

Rule 39

1. When the debate on an item is concluded because there are no other speakers, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by the consent of the Committee.

2. A member may at any time move the closure of the debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other member or representative has signified his wish to speak. Permission to speak on the closure of the debate shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the closure, after which the motion shall immediately be put to the vote.

Order of motions

Rule 40

Subject to rule 36 of these rules, the following motions shall have precedence in the following order over all other proposals or motions before the meeting:

(a) To suspend the meeting;

(b) To adjourn the meeting;

(c) To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;

(d) To close the debate on the item under discussion.

Submission of proposals

Rule 41

Unless otherwise decided by the Committee, proposals and substantive amendments or motions submitted by members shall be introduced in writing and handed to the Secretariat, and their consideration shall, if so requested by any member, be deferred until the next meeting on a subsequent day.

Decisions on competence

Rule 42

Subject to rule 40 of these rules, any motion by a member calling for a decision on the competence of the Committee to adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote immediately before a vote is taken on the proposal in question.

Withdrawal of motions

Rule 43

A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting on it has commenced, provided that the motion has not been amended. A motion which has thus been withdrawn may be reintroduced by any member.

Reconsideration of proposals

Rule 44

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Committee so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers in favour of the

motion and two speakers opposing the motion, after which it shall immediately be put to the vote.

XI. VOTING

Voting rights

Rule 45

Each member of the Committee shall have one vote.

Adoption of decisions

Rule 46

Decisions of the Committee shall be made by a majority of the members present. However, the Committee shall endeavour to work on the basis of the principle of consensus.

Equally divided votes

Rule 47

If a vote is equally divided on a matter other than an election, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

Method of voting

Rule 48

1. Subject to rule 53 of these rules, the Committee shall normally vote by show of hands, except that any member may request a roll-call, which shall then be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members of the Committee, beginning with the member whose name is drawn by lot by the Chairman.

2. The vote of each member participating in a roll-call shall be inserted in the record.

Conduct during voting and explanation of votes

Rule 49

After the voting has commenced, there shall be no interruption of the voting except on a point of order by a member in connection with the actual conduct of the voting. Brief statements by members consisting solely of explanations of their votes may be permitted by the Chairman before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed.

Division of proposals

Rule 50

Parts of a proposal shall be voted on separately if a member requests that the proposal be divided. Those parts of the proposal which have been

approved shall then be put to the vote as a whole; if all the operative parts of a proposal have been rejected, the proposal shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

Order of voting on amendments

Rule 51

1. When an amendment to a proposal is moved, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments to a proposal are moved, the Committee shall first vote on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom and so on until all amendments have been put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon.

2. A motion is considered an amendment to a proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal.

Order of voting on proposals

Rule 52

1. If two or more proposals relate to the same question, the Committee shall, unless it decides otherwise, vote on the proposals in the order in which they have been submitted.

2. The Committee may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

3. Any motion requiring that no decision be taken on the substance of such proposals shall, however, be considered as previous questions and shall be put to the vote before them.

XII. ELECTIONS

Methods of elections

Rule 53

Elections shall be held by secret ballot, unless the Committee decides otherwise in the case of an election to fill a place for which there is only one candidate.

Conduct of elections when only one elective place is to be filled

Rule 54

1. When only one elective place is to be filled, and no candidate obtains in the first ballot the majority required, a second ballot shall be taken, which shall be restricted to the two candidates who obtained the greatest number of votes.

2. If the second ballot is inconclusive and a majority vote of members present is required, a third ballot shall be taken in which votes may be cast

for any eligible candidate. If the third ballot is inconclusive, the next ballot shall be restricted to the two candidates who obtained the greatest number of votes in the third ballot and so on, with unrestricted and restricted ballots alternating, until a candidate is elected.

3. If the second ballot is inconclusive and a two-thirds majority is required, the balloting shall be continued until one candidate secures the necessary two-thirds majority. In the next three ballots, votes may be cast for any eligible candidate. If three such unrestricted ballots are inconclusive, the next three ballots shall be restricted to the two candidates who obtained the greatest number of votes in the third such unrestricted ballot, and the following three ballots shall be unrestricted and so on until a candidate is elected.

Conduct of elections when two or more elective places are to be filled

Rule 55

When two or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates obtaining in the first ballot the majority required shall be elected. If the number of candidates obtaining the required majority is less than the number of members to be elected, there shall be additional ballots to fill the remaining places, the voting being restricted to the candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot and to a number no more than twice the places remaining to be filled; provided that, after the third inconclusive ballot, votes may be cast for any eligible candidate. If three such unrestricted ballots are inconclusive, the next three ballots shall be restricted to the candidates who obtained the greatest number of votes in the third of the unrestricted ballots and to a number not more than twice the places remaining to be filled. The following three ballots thereafter shall be unrestricted, and so on until all the places have been filled.

XIII. SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Ad hoc subsidiary bodies

Rule 56

1. Subject to rule 24, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, the Committee may set up ad hoc subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions, and define their composition and powers.

2. Each subsidiary body shall elect its own officers and may adopt its own rules of procedure. Failing such rules, the present rules of procedure shall apply mutatis mutandis.

XIV. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Annual report

Rule 57

1. The Committee shall submit to the Council an annual report on its activities, including a summary of its consideration of reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant. The report may include general observations by members of the Committee on the basis of their consideration of States parties' reports. A list of States parties to the Covenant shall be annexed to the report of the Committee together with an indication of the status of submission of reports by States parties.

2. The Committee shall also include in its report suggestions and recommendations of a general nature referred to under rule 64 of these rules of procedure.

Part two

RULES RELATING TO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

XV. REPORTS FROM STATES PARTIES UNDER ARTICLES 16 AND 17 OF THE COVENANT

Submission of reports

Rule 58

1. In accordance with article 16 of the Covenant, the States parties shall submit to the Council for consideration by the Committee reports on the measures which they have adopted and progress made in achieving the observance of the rights recognized in the Covenant.

2. In accordance with article 17 of the Covenant and Council resolution 1988/4, the States parties shall submit their initial reports within two years of the entry into force of the Covenant for the State party concerned and thereafter periodic reports at five-year intervals.

Non-submission of reports

Rule 59

1. At each session, the Secretary-General shall notify the Committee of all cases of non-submission of reports under rule 58 of these rules. In such cases the Committee may recommend to the Council to transmit to the State party concerned, through the Secretary-General, a reminder concerning the submission of such reports.

2. If, after the reminder referred to in paragraph 1 of this rule, the State party does not submit the report required under rule 58 of these rules, the Committee shall so state in the annual report which it submits to the Council.

Form and content of reports

Rule 60

1. Upon approval of the Council, the Committee may inform the States parties, through the Secretary-General, of its wishes regarding the form and contents of the reports to be submitted under article 16 of the Covenant and the programme established by Council resolution 1988/4.

2. The general guidelines for reports by the States parties may, when necessary, be considered by the Committee with a view to making suggestions for their improvement.

Consideration of reports

Rule 61

1. The Committee shall consider the reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant in accordance with the programme established by Council resolution 1988/4.

2. The Committee shall normally consider the reports submitted by States parties under article 16 of the Covenant in the order in which they have been received by the Secretary-General.

3. Reports of the States parties scheduled for consideration by the Committee shall be made available to the members of the Committee at least six weeks before the opening of the session of the Committee. Any reports by States parties received by the Secretary-General for processing less than 12 weeks before the opening of the session shall be made available to the Committee at its session in the following year.

Attendance by States parties at examination of reports

Rule 62

1. Representatives of the reporting States are entitled to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined. Such representatives should be able to make statements on the reports submitted by their States and reply to questions which may be put to them by the members of the Committee.

2. The Secretary-General shall notify the States parties as early as possible of the opening date and duration of the session of the Committee at which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration. For the meetings referred to in the preceding paragraph, representatives of the States parties concerned shall be specially invited to attend.

Request for additional information

Rule 63

1. When considering a report submitted by a State party under article 16 of the Covenant, the Committee shall first satisfy itself that the report provides all the information required under existing guidelines.

2. If a report of a State party to the Covenant, in the opinion of the Committee, does not contain sufficient information, the Committee may request the State concerned to furnish the additional information which is required, indicating the manner as well as the time within which the said information should be submitted.

Suggestions and recommendations

Rule 64

The Committee shall make suggestions and recommendations of a general nature on the basis of its consideration of reports submitted by States parties and of the reports submitted by the specialized agencies in order to assist the Council to fulfil, in particular, its responsibilities under articles 21 and 22 of the Covenant. The Committee may also make suggestions for the consideration by the Council with reference to articles 19 and 23 of the Covenant.

General comments

Rule 65

The Committee may prepare general comments based on the various articles and provisions of the Covenant with a view to assisting States parties in fulfilling their reporting obligations.

XVI. REPORTS FROM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES UNDER ARTICLE 18 OF THE COVENANT

Submission of reports

Rule 66

In accordance with the provisions of article 18 of the Covenant and the arrangements made by the Council thereunder, the specialized agencies are called upon to submit reports on the progress made in achieving the observance of the provisions of the Covenant falling within the scope of their activities. These reports may include particulars of decisions and recommendations on such implementation adopted by their competent organs.

Consideration of reports

Rule 67

The Committee is entrusted with the task of considering the reports of the specialized agencies, submitted to the Council in accordance with article 18 of the Covenant and the programme established under Council resolution 1988 (LX).

Participation of specialized agencies

Rule 68

The specialized agencies concerned shall be invited to designate representatives to participate at the meetings of the Committee. Such representatives may make statements on matters falling within the scope of the activities of their respective organizations in the course of the discussion by the Committee of the report of each State party to the Covenant. The representatives of the States parties presenting reports to the Committee shall be free to respond to, or take into account, the statements made by the specialized agencies.

XVII. OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Submission of information, documentation and written statements

Rule 69

1. Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council may submit to the Committee written statements that might contribute to full and universal recognition and realization of the rights contained in the Covenant.

2. The Committee may recommend to the Council to invite United Nations bodies concerned and regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to it information, documentation and written statements, as appropriate, relevant to its activities under the Covenant.

Part three

INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS

XVIII. INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS

Underlined headings

Rule 70

The underlined headings of these rules, which were inserted for reference purposes only, shall be disregarded in the interpretation of the rules.

Amendments

Rule 71

These rules of procedure may be amended by a decision of the Committee, subject to approval of the Council.

Approval of and modification by the Council

Rule 72

These rules of procedure are subject to the approval by the Council and shall remain in force in so far as they are not superseded or modified by decisions of the Council.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/C.12/1990/5
20 July 1990

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

REVISED SCHEDULE FOR SUBMISSION OF REPORTS BY STATES PARTIES UNDER ARTICLES 16 AND 17 OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AT ITS FOURTH SESSION

GE.90-17044/7758A

Introduction

1. At its second session, the Committee proposed to revise the previously existing arrangements with respect to reporting by States parties. Among the objectives sought to be achieved by this change were: to reduce the burden imposed on States parties with respect to reporting; to facilitate the task both of the reporting State and of the Committee by working on the basis of a global unified report; to be more consistent with reporting obligations under other international human rights instruments; to make the nature and periodicity of the reporting process more readily understood by all concerned and, in particular, to enhance the effectiveness of the overall monitoring system.

2. In its resolution 1988/4, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that States parties be requested to submit a single report within two years of the entry into force of the Covenant for the State party concerned and thereafter at five-year intervals. Accordingly, at its third session, the Committee discussed the temporary arrangements that will be required in order to ensure a smooth transition from the old to the new periodicity arrangements with respect to the reporting obligations of each State party to the Covenant.

3. The Committee agreed to request the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman, to draw up a revised schedule for reporting by State parties in accordance with the new periodicity arrangements. It was agreed that in doing so, the following considerations would be taken into account: (a) all reports should be due on the same day of the relevant year in order to simplify the arrangements as far as possible; it was agreed that 30 June was an appropriate date which would allow adequate time for the reports to be processed by the Secretariat; (b) the transition to the new arrangements should, in principle, be completed as soon as possible while at the same time providing for appropriate flexibility; (c) account should be taken of the extent to which each State party has complied with its reporting obligations to date under the Covenant; (d) an effort should be made to stagger the years during which reports will be due so as to ensure a reasonably even flow of reports to the Committee.

4. As requested by the Committee at its third session, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, prepared a revised schedule for reporting by States parties in accordance withVthe new periodicity arrangements. The revised schedule was considered and approved by the Committee at its fourth session, held at Geneva from 15 January to 2 February 1990.

5. The revised schedule consists of two parts. Part A contains transitional arrangements and deals with the completion by States parties of the first or second cycles of reporting under the previous system, established by Economic and Social Council resolution 1988 (LX) of 11 May 1976, as modified by decision 1985/132 of 28 May 1985.

6. Part B contains a schedule for the submission by States parties of global reports on articles 1 to 15 of the Covenant in accordance with the new programme established by Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/4 of 24 May 1988.

Part A

COMPLETION BY STATES PARTIES OF THE FIRST OR SECOND CYCLES OF REPORTING UNDER THE PREVIOUS SYSTEM, ESTABLISHED BY ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1988 (LX) OF 11 MAY 1976 AND DECISION 1985/132 OF 28 MAY 1985

I. Submission by States parties of initial reports

30 June 1990: 1. States parties

Italy (arts. 13-15)
Philippines (arts. 10-22)
Senegal (arts. 6-9)
Tunisia (arts. 13-15)

2. States parties a/

Afghanistan (arts. 10-12 and 13-15)
Cameroon (arts. 6-9 and 13-15)
Guyana (arts. 6-9 and 10-12)
Iran (Islamic Republic of) (arts. 6-9 and 10-12)
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (arts. 6-9 and 10-12)
Peru (arts. 10-12 and 13-15)
United Republic of Tanzania (arts. 6-9 and 13-15)
Zambia (arts. 6-9 and 13-15)

30 June 1991: State party a/

Argentina (arts. 6-9 and 10-12)

II. Submission by States parties of second periodic reports

1 September 1989: States parties b/

Australia (arts. 13-15)
Bulgaria (arts. 13-15)
Chile (arts. 13-15)
Cyprus (arts. 13-15)
Denmark (arts. 13-15)
German Democratic Republic (arts. 13-15)
Germany, Federal Republic of (arts. 13-15)
Hungary (arts. 13-15)
Mongolia (arts. 13-15)
Romania (arts. 13-15)
Ukrainian SSR (arts. 13-15)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (arts. 13-15)

30 June 1990: States parties a/

Canada (arts. 10-12 and 13-15)
Rwanda (arts. 10-12 and 13-15)
Yugoslavia (arts. 10-12 and 13-15)
Iraq (arts. 6-9 and 13-15)

30 June 1992: States parties a/

Austria (arts. 6-9 and 13-15)
Ecuador (arts. 10-12 and 13-15)
Netherlands (arts. 6-9 and 13-15)

30 June 1993: State party a/

Jamaica (arts. 10-12 and 13-15)

III. Submission by States parties of both initial and second periodic reports

30 June 1990: State party a/

Panama (arts. 6-9 and 13-15)

Part B

SUBMISSION BY STATES PARTIES OF GLOBAL REPORTS ON ARTICLES 1 TO 15 OF THE COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROGRAMME ESTABLISHED BY ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1988/4 OF 24 MAY 1988

I. Submission of initial reports under the new system

30 June 1990: 31 States parties: Belgium, Bolivia, Central African Republic, Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Iceland, Kenya, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, New Zealand, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Uganda, Uruguay and Viet Nam

30 June 1991: 1 State party: Algeria

30 June 1992: 2 States parties: Ireland and Somalia

II. Submission of second periodic reports under the new system

30 June 1990: 1 State party: Madagascar

30 June 1991: 5 States parties: Barbados, India, Jordan, Portugal and Venezuela

30 June 1992: 5 States parties: Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, Japan, Mexico and Zaire

30 June 1993: 4 States parties: Luxembourg, Democratic Yemen, Costa Rica and Trinidad and Tobago

30 June 1994: 1 State party: Dominican Republic

30 June 1995: 44 States parties: Afghanistan, Belgium, Bolivia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Peru, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia

30 June 1996: 2 States parties: Algeria and Argentina

30 June 1997: 2 States parties: Ireland and Somalia

III. Submission of third periodic reports under the new system

30 June 1994: 22 States parties: Australia, Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Mongolia, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Sweden, Ukrainian SSR, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

30 June 1995: 6 States parties: Canada, Rwanda, Yugoslavia, Iraq, Madagascar and Panama

30 June 1996: 5 States parties: Barbados, India, Jordan, Portugal and Venezuela

30 June 1997: 8 States parties: Austria, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, France, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands and Zaire

30 June 1998: 5 States parties: Democratic Yemen, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Luxembourg and Trinidad and Tobago

30 June 1999: 1 State party: Dominican Republic

---

a/ States parties were requested to submit their respective reports in one consolidated document.

b/ The States parties listed below were requested, prior to the Committee's approval of the revised schedule, to complete the second cycle of reporting by 1 September 1989, the date set forth under the previous programme.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/C.12/1990/6
12 September 1990

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
Fifth session
Geneva, 26 November-14 December 1990

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The fifth session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, established in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/17, will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 26 November 1990 to 14 December 1990. The first meeting will be convened on Monday, 26 November 1990, at 10.30 a.m.

2. The attached provisional agenda and annotations for the fifth session of the Committee have been prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 4 of the rules of procedure of the Committee.

3. The attention of the States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 7, containing the list of reports that will be before the Committee at its fifth session.

4. A pre-sessional working group of the Committee composed of five members, established in accordance with rule 56 of the rules of procedure, will meet for a period of one week at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 8 to 12 October 1990.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session

2. Election of officers

3. Adoption of the agenda

4. Organization of work

5. Action by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1990; the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session; and the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-sixth session

6. Submission of reports by States parties in accordance with articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

7. Consideration of reports:

   (a) Reports submitted by States parties in accordance with articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

   (b) Reports submitted by specialized agencies in accordance with article 18 of the Covenant

8. Formulation of suggestions and recommendations of a general nature based on the consideration of reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant and by the specialized agencies

9. General discussion on the rights contained in article 11 of the Covenant

10. Report of the Committee to the Economic and Social Council

ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the session

The fifth session of the Committee will be opened by the representative of the Secretary-General who will preside over the meeting until the election of the Chairman of the Committee.

2. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 14 of its rules of procedure, the Committee shall elect from among its members a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur, with due regard for equitable geographical representation.

3. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 5 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda, except for the election of its officers when required under rule 14. In accordance with rule 6 the Committee, during a session, may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, add, delete or defer items.

4. Organization of work

In accordance with rule 8 of its rules of procedure, at the beginning of each session, the Committee shall consider appropriate organizational matters, including the schedule of its meetings and the possibility of holding a general discussion on the measures adopted and the progress made in achieving the observance of the rights recognized in the Covenant. In this connection, the attention of the members of the Committee is drawn to the draft programme of work for the session, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and in pursuance of the established practice (E/C.12/1990/L.3).

At its third session, the Committee discussed the draft provisional rules of procedure, submitted by the Secretary-General at its request, and adopted them as amended during the discussion. The provisional rules of procedure, as adopted, are contained in Annex IV to the Committee's report on its third session (E/1989/22). The Council, at its first regular session of 1990, by its decision 1990/251 of 25 May 1990, approved the Committee's provisional rules of procedure as adopted by the Committee at its third session and as amended at its fourth session (see document E/C.12/1990/4).

The Committee, at its third session, agreed to recommend to the Council that its pre-sessional working group should, in the future, be held some one to three months in advance of the Committee's sessions in order to give States parties adequate notice of the list of issues, and to allow for the latter's timely translation and dissemination (E/1989/22, para. 338). At its first regular session of 1990, the Council by its decision 1990/252 of 25 May 1990, approved the holding of the Committee's pre-sessional working group at a time one to three months prior to the Committee's session. Accordingly, the pre-sessional working group of the fifth session is scheduled to meet for a period of one week from 8 to 12 October 1990.

5. Action by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1990; the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session and by the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-sixth session (E/1990/23, para. 297)

The Committee, at its fourth session, decided that, at its future sessions, a new item should be added to its agenda so as to enable it to reflect on any feedback received from the discussion of its work by the Coun il, as well as by the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly (E/1990/23, para. 297).

The attention of the members of the Committee is drawn to resolution 1990/45, adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session in 1990, by which the Council, inter alia, reaffirmed the importance of the International Covenants on Human Rights in promoting universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, welcomed the adoption by the Committee of a general comment at its third and fourth sessions, and encouraged the Committee to continue using general comments to develop a fuller appreciation of the obligations of States parties under the Covenant.

The Council, by the same resolution, decided to transmit the report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session for consideration under the agenda item on the International Covenants on Human Rights. The relevant resolutions of the General Assembly will be made available to the Committee at its fifth session.

The attention of the members of the Committee is also drawn to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/25 by which the Commission decided, inter alia, to invite "the treaty bodies to review the study on possible long-term approaches, to consider which conclusions and recommendations are of relevance to their respective spheres, and to send their comments to the Secretary-General".

Accordingly, the Committee will have before it under this item:

(a) Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/45 and decisions 1990/226, 1990/227, 1990/251, 1990/252 and 1990/254;

(b) The relevant General Assembly resolutions;

(c) Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1990/17, 1990/20, 1990/21 and 1990/25;

(d) Study on possible long-term approaches to enhancing the effective operation of existing and prospective bodies established under United Nations human rights instruments (A/44/668).

6. Submission of reports by States parties in accordance with articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

In accordance with rule 59, para. 1 of the rules of procedure of the Committee, the Committee shall at each session consider the status of submission of reports under article 16 of the Covenant and may make appropriate recommendations in its report to the Council, including

recommendations to the effect that the Secretary-General should send reminders to States parties from which reports have not been received. In accordance with rule 57, para. 1 of the rules of procedure, a list of States parties to the Covenant shall be annexed to the report of the Committee on each session, together with an indication of the status of submission of reports by States parties.

In connection with the consideration by the Committee of this item, the particular attention of the Committee is drawn to document E/C.12/1990/5, containing the revised schedule for the submission of reports by States parties under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant as adopted by the Committee at its fourth session.

The Committee will have before it under this item:

(a) A revised schedule for the submission of reports by States parties under articles 16 and 17 of the the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/C.12/1990/5);

(b) A note by the Secretary-General on the States parties to the Covenant and the status of submission of reports (E/C.12/1990/7);

(c) A report by the Secretary-General containing a list of articles showing the nature and extent of overlapping under six international instruments (E/C.12/1989/3);

(d) A note by the Secretary-General on reservations, declarations and objections relating to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/C.12/1988/1);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General reproducing a compilation of general guidelines regarding the form and contents of reports to be submitted by States parties (E/C.12/1987/2);

(f) The relevant General Assembly resolutions and Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/45.

7. Consideration of reports

(a) Reports submitted by States parties in accordance with articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

In accordance with rule 61, para. 2 of the rules of procedure, the Committee shall normally consider the reports submitted by States parties under article 16 of the Covenant in the order in which they have been received by the Secretary-General. Representatives of the reporting States are entitled to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined; such representatives should be able to make statements on the reports submitted by their States and reply to questions which may be put to them by the members of the Committee.

The Committee, at its fourth session, having discussed the arrangements for the consideration of reports submitted by States parties, requested the Secretary-General to schedule 13 reports from 11 States parties for consideration at its fifth session. The Committee also suggested that, in

general, the following allocation of time, for the consideration of each State party report submitted under the previous reporting system, be followed: 45 minutes of brief introductory statement combined with an initial response to the written list of issues by the representative of the State party (or alternatively 15 minutes if no response was provided to the written list of issues at this point); 60 minutes for questions by members of the Committee and observations by representatives of specialized agencies; 45 minutes, preferably at a subsequent rather than the same meeting, for further replies by the State party representatives; and 30 minutes for concluding observations by Committee members.

The Committee decided at its fourth session that its consideration of the global reports which States parties were beginning to submit in accordance with the new 5-year periodicity would necessitate the allocation of considerably more time for each phase of the examination. It was agreed in general that on the basis of the time (3 hours) presently allocated for the consideration of the equivalent of one third of a global report, and in line with the practice of the Human Rights Committee, up to a total of 3 meetings would be allocated for each global report. While recognizing that it might wish, in the light of future experience, to revise its approach, the Committee agreed to allocate the following indicative times for each phase: up to 30 minutes of general introductory comments by the representative of the State party; up to 2 hours for the representative to respond to the list of written questions; up to 3 hours for observations by representatives of the specialized agencies and questions by members of the Committee; up to 2 hours for further replies by the State party; and up to one hour, on a subsequent day, for concluding observations by members of the Committee.

In accordance with rule 62, para. 2 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the opening date and duration of the fifth session of the Committee at which their respective reports will be examined and has invited them to send representatives to attend the meetings of the Committee.

As at 1 September 1990, the reports listed below had been received by the Secretary-General. The reports of the States parties which are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its fifth session, in accordance with the above-mentioned decision of the Committee, are identified by an asterisk. The tentative time-table for consideration of those reports, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, is contained in document E/C.12/1990/L.3.

Initial reports concerning articles 6 to 9 of the Covenant

Afghanistan*/	(E/1984/6/Add.12)
Panama*/	(E/1984/6/Add.19)

Initial reports concerning articles 10 to 12 of the Covenant

Ecuador*/ (E/1986/3/Add.14)	
Nicaragua	(E/1986/3/Add.15)

Initial reports concerning articles 13 to 15 of the Covenant

Jordan*/	(E/1982/3/Add.38/Rev.1)
Iran (Islamic Republic of)*/	(E/1982/3/Add.43)
Democratic People's Republic of Korea*/	(E/1988/5/Add.6)
Ecuador*/	(E/1988/5/Add.7)
Panama*/	(E/1988/5/Add.9)

Second periodic reports concerning articles 10 to 12 of the Covenant

Panama*/	(E/1986/4/Add.22)

Second periodic reports concerning articles 13 to 15 of the Covenant

Finland	(E/1990/7/Add.1)
Sweden	(E/1990/7/Add.2)
Spain	(E/1990/7/Add.3)
Colombia	(E/1990/7/Add.4)
Byelorussian SSR	(E/1990/7/Add.5)
Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	(E/1990/7/Add.6)
Norway	(E/1990/7/Add.7)
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	(E/1990/7/Add.8)
Poland	(E/1990/7/Add.9)
Hungary	(E/1990/7/Add.10)

Initial reports concerning articles 1 to 15 of the Covenant

Luxembourg*/	(E/1990/5/Add.1)
Yemen*/ (**/)	(E/1990/5/Add.2)
Costa Rica*/	(E/1990/5/Add.3)
Dominican Republic*/	E/1990/5/Add.4)

Second periodic reports concerning articles 1 to 15 of the Covenant

Syrian Arab Republic*/	(E/1990/6/Add.1)

---

*/ Reports scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its fifth session (for the tentative time-table, see document E/C.12/1990/L.3).

**/ As of 22 May 1990 the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic merged into a single sovereign State, the Republic of Yemen, with Sana'a as its capital. The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen had acceded to the Covenant on 9 May 1987. The Yemen Arab Republic was not a State party to the Covenant.

Additional information submitted by States parties to the Covenant following the consideration of their reports by the Committee

Zaire	(E/1989/5)
France	(E/1989/5/Add.1)
Netherlands	(E/1989/5/Add.2)
Colombia	(E/1989/5/Add.3)

(b) Reports submitted by specialized agencies in accordance with article 18 of the Covenant

In accordance with rule 67 of its rules of procedure, the Committee is entrusted with the task of considering the reports submitted by specialized agencies in accordance with article 18 of the Covenant.

In accordance with rule 68 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the specialized agencies concerned may make statements on matters falling within the scope of the activities of their respective organizations in the course of the discussion by the Committee of the report of each State party to the Covenant. The representatives of the States parties presenting reports to the Committee shall be free to respond to, or take into account, the statements made by the specialized agencies.

Accordingly, the Secretary-General has invited the following specialized agencies to send their representatives to attend the meetings of the Committee: International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and World Health Organization (WHO).

Any report which may be received from the specialized agencies under article 18 of the Covenant will be made available to the Committee in due course.

8. Formulation of suggestions and recommendations of a general nature based on the consideration of reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant and by the specialized agencies

As required under rule 64 of its rules of procedure, the Committee shall make suggestions and recommendations of a general nature on the basis of its consideration of reports submitted by States parties and the reports submitted by specialized agencies, in order to assist the Council to fulfil, in particular, its responsibilities under articles 21 and 22 of the Covenant. The Committee may also make suggestions for the consideration of the Council with reference to articles 19, 22 and 23 of the Covenant.

9. General discusssion on the rights contained in article 11 of the Covenant (E/1989/22, para. 332)

The Committee, at its second session, decided that, at each of its future sessions, it would devote one day during the final week of its session to a general discussion of one specific right or a particular article of the Covenant in order to develop in greater depth its understanding of the relevant issues. Accordingly, the Committee agreed at its third session that the focus of its discussions would be on the rights contained in article 11 of the Covenant. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1988/4, paragraph 12, endorsed the Committee's decision.

10. Report of the Committee to the Economic and Social Council

In accordance with rule 57 of its rules of procedure, the Committee shall submit to the Council an annual report on its activities, including a summary of its consideration of the reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant. The report may include general observations by members of the Committee on the basis of their consideration of States parties' reports.

The Committee shall also include in its report suggestions and recommendations of a general nature referred to under rule 64 of the rules of procedure of the Committee.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/C.12/1990/7
14 September 1990

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
Fifth session
Geneva
26 November-14 December 1990

STATES PARTIES TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS AND STATUS OF THE SUBMISSION OF REPORTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROGRAMME ESTABLISHED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL IN RESOLUTIONS 1988 (LX) AND RULE 58 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 2200 A (XXI) of 16 December 1966, entered into force on 3 January 1976, three months after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification, as provided for under article 27 of the Covenant.

2. As at 1 September 1990, the Covenant had been ratified or acceded to by 97 States. A list of the States parties in the order in which the Covenant entered into force for each State as well as information on the status of the submission of reports by States parties may be found in the annex to the present document.

Submission of initial reports concerning rights covered by articles 6 to 9 of the Covenant

3. In accordance with the programme established by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1988 (LX) of 11 May 1976, initial reports concerning rights covered by articles 6 to 9 of the Covenant were due under the first cycle of the reporting procedure from 46 States parties by 1 September 1977 and initial reports concerning the same articles were due under the second cycle of the reporting procedure from 32 States parties by 1 September 1983.

GE.90-17592/2358B

The Secretary-General, by a note verbale dated 1 June 1977, requested 46 States parties for which the Covenant had entered into force by that date to submit their initial reports concerning articles 6 to 9 of the Covenant by 1 September 1977 (see also E/1978/8). By a note verbale dated 1 March 1983, the Secretary-General requested the 32 States parties for which the Covenant entered into force subsequently to submit their initial reports concerning the same articles of the Covenant by 1 September 1983. By another note verbale, also dated 1 March 1983, the Secretary-General requested 16 States parties which had not yet submitted their initial reports concerning those articles, required under the first reporting cycle, to do so by 1 September 1983 (see also E/1984/6, paras. 7-8).

4. As at 1 September 1990, initial reports concerning rights covered by articles 6 to 9 had been received from the following 50 States parties to the Covenant: Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), 1/ Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Madagascar, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Spain, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire (see E/1978/8 and addenda and E/1984/6 and addenda).

5. The reports of Afghanistan (E/1984/6/Add.12), Panama (E/1984/6/Add.19) and Portugal (E/1984/6/Add.16) 2/ are pending consideration by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Consideration of the reports of Afghanistan and Panama was postponed at the fourth session of the Committee at the request of the Governments concerned.

Submission of initial reports concerning rights covered by articles 10 to 12 of the Covenant

6. In accordance with the programme established by the Council in resolution 1988 (LX), initial reports concerning rights covered by articles 10 to 12 of the Covenant were due under the first cycle of the reporting procedure from 60 States parties by 1 September 1979 and initial reports concerning the same articles were due under the second cycle of the reporting procedure from 23 States parties by 1 September 1985. The Secretary-General, by a note verbale dated 10 May 1979, requested the 60 States parties for which the Covenant had entered into force by that date to submit their initial reports concerning those articles by 1 September 1979 (see also E/1980/6). By a note verbale dated 10 January 1985, the Secretary-General requested the 23 States parties for which the Covenant entered into force subsequently to submit their initial reports concerning the same articles of the Covenant by 1 September 1985. By another note verbale, also dated 10 January 1985, the Secretary-General requested 25 States parties which had not yet submitted their initial reports concerning those articles, required under the first reporting cycle, to do so by 1 September 1985 (see also E/1986/3).

7. As at 1 September 1990, initial reports concerning rights covered by articles 10 to 12 had been received from the following 50 States parties to the Covenant: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Denmark, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Madagascar, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia (see E/1980/6 and addenda and E/1986/3 and addenda).

8. The reports of Ecuador (E/1986/3/Add.14) and Nicaragua (E/1986/3/Add.15) are pending consideration by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Submission of initial reports concerning rights covered by articles 13 to 15 of the Covenant

9. In accordance with the programme established by the Council in resolution 1988 (LX), initial reports concerning rights covered by articles 13 to 15 of the Covenant were due under the first cycle of the reporting procedure from 69 States parties by 1 September 1981 and initial reports concerning the same articles were due under the second cycle of the reporting procedure from 21 States parties by 1 September 1987. The Secretary-General, by a note verbale dated 25 March 1981, requested the 69 States parties for which the Covenant had entered into force by that date to submit their initial reports concerning those articles by 1 September 1981 (see also E/1982/3). By a note verbale dated 9 February 1987, the Secretary-General requested the 21 States parties for which the Covenant entered into force subsequently to submit their initial reports concerning articles 13 to 15 of the Covenant by 1 September 1987. By another note verbale, also dated 9 February 1987, the Secretary-General requested 29 States parties which had not yet submitted their initial reports concerning those articles, required under the first reporting cycle, to do so by 1 September 1987 (see E/1988/5).

10. As at 1 September 1990, initial reports concerning rights covered by articles 13 to 15 had been received from the following 48 States parties to the Covenant: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guyana, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire (see E/1982/3 and addenda and E/1988/5 and addenda).

11. The reports of Jordan (E/1982/3/Add.38/Rev.1), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (E/1982/3/Add.43), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (E/1988/5/Add.6), Ecuador (E/1988/5/Add.7) and Panama (E/1988/5/Add.9) are pending consideration by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Consideration of the reports of Jordan and Iran (Islamic Republic of) was postponed at the fourth session of the Committee at the request of the Governments concerned.

Submission of second periodic reports concerning rights covered by articles 6 to 9 of the Covenant

12. In accordance with the programme established by the Council in resolution 1988 (LX), second periodic reports concerning rights covered by articles 6 to 9 of the Covenant were due under the second cycle of the reporting procedure by 1 September 1983. The Secretary-General, by a note verbale dated 1 March 1983, requested the 31 States parties which had submitted initial reports under the first reporting cycle to submit their second periodic reports concerning those articles by 1 September 1983 (see also E/1984/7).

13. As at 1 September 1990, second periodic reports concerning rights covered by articles 6 to 9 had been received from the following 28 States parties to the Covenant: Australia, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Jamaica, Madagascar, Mongolia, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Spain, Sweden, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia (see E/1984/7 and addenda).

Submission of second periodic reports concerning rights covered by articles 10 to 12 of the Covenant

14. In accordance with the programme established by the Council in resolution 1988 (LX), second periodic reports concerning rights covered by articles 10 to 12 of the Covenant were due under the second cycle of the reporting procedure by 1 September 1985. The Secretary-General, by a note verbale dated 10 January 1985, requested the 35 States parties which had submitted initial reports under the first reporting cycle to submit their second periodic reports concerning those articles by 1 September 1985 (see also E/1986/4).

15. By its decision 1985/132 of 28 May 1985, the Council decided, while maintaining the current biennial programme for initial reports submitted under article 16 of the Covenant, to prolong by one year the periodicity of the reporting for the second and subsequent periodic reports. Accordingly, in a note verbale dated 21 October 1985, the Secretary-General informed those States parties which had not yet submitted their second periodic report on the rights covered by articles 10 to 12 of the Covenant that their reports would be due on 1 September 1986.

16. As at 1 September 1990, second periodic reports concerning rights covered by articles 10 to 12 had been received from the following 25 States parties to the Covenant: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Iraq, Mongolia, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (see E/1986/4 and addenda).

17. The second periodic report of Panama (E/1986/4/Add.22) is pending consideration by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Consideration of the report of Panama was postponed at the fourth session of the Committee at the request of the Government concerned.

Submission of second periodic reports concerning rights covered by articles 13 to 15 of the Covenant

18. In accordance with the programme established by the Council in resolution 1988 (LX), second periodic reports concerning rights covered by articles 13 to 15 of the Covenant were due under the second cycle of the reporting procedure by 1 September 1987.

19. By its decision 1985/132 of 28 May 1985, the Council decided, while maintaining the current biennial programme for initial reports submitted under article 16 of the Covenant, to prolong by one year the periodicity of the reporting for the second and subsequent periodic reports. Accordingly, in a note verbale dated 18 May 1989, the Secretary-General requested the 21 States parties, which had submitted initial reports on the rights covered by articles 13 to 15 of the Covenant under the first reporting cycle, to submit their second periodic reports concerning those articles by 1 September 1989.

20. As at 1 September 1990, second periodic reports concerning rights covered by articles 13 to 15 had been received from the following States parties to the Covenant: Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Colombia, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Finland, Hungary, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Spain and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

21. The second periodic reports of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic (E/1990/7/Add.5), Colombia (E/1990/7/Add.4), Czech and Slovak Federal Republic (E/1990/7/Add.6), Finland (E/1990/7/Add.1), Hungary (E/1990/7/Add.10), Norway (E/1990/7/Add.7), Poland (E/1990/7/Add.9), Sweden (E/1990/7/Add.2), Spain (E/1990/7/Add.3) and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (E/1990/7/Add.8) are pending consideration by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Submission of the global reports concerning rights covered by articles 1 to 15 of the Covenant

22. As provided for under article 17 of the Covenant, the Economic and Social Council, by resolution 1988/4 of 24 May 1988 decided to revise its earlier programme of reporting by States parties established in its resolution 1988 (LX) of 2 May 1976 and endorsed the recommendation made by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its second session (E/1988/14, para. 351) that States parties be requested to submit a single initial report within two years of the entry into force of the Covenant for the State party concerned and thereafter periodic reports at five-year intervals.

23. In a note verbale dated 30 September 1988, the Secretary-General informed States parties to the Covenant of this decision.

24. As at 1 September 1990, initial reports on articles 1 to 15 of the Covenant, submitted in accordance with Council resolution 1988/4, were received from Luxembourg, Yemen 3/, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic; a second periodic report on articles 1 to 15 of the Covenant was received from the Syrian Arab Republic.

25. As at 1 September 1989, the following 29 States parties to the Covenant had not yet submitted any reports at all since their ratification of, or accession to, the Covenant: Belgium, Bolivia, Central African Republic, Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Gabon, Gambia, Greece, Guinea, Honduras, Iceland, Kenya, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, New Zealand, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Uganda, Uruguay and Viet Nam. In accordance with the relevant decisions adopted by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its third session (see E/1989/22, para. 337), the Secretary-General, in a note verbale dated 24 May 1989, informed the above-mentioned States parties that their initial reports on articles 1 to 15 of the Covenant should be submitted in one consolidated document by 30 June 1990 and their periodic reports at five-year intervals thereafter.

26. In addition, Equatorial Guinea and Guatemala acceded to the Covenant on 25 September 1987 and 19 May 1988 respectively. In a note verbale, also dated 24 May 1989, the Secretary-General informed them that their initial reports on articles 1 to 15 of the Covenant are to be submitted by 30 June 1990 and their periodic reports at five-year intervals thereafter.

27. The initial reports submitted by the States parties listed in paragraphs 24, 25 and 26 above will be issued as addenda to document E/1990/5.

28. The second periodic reports submitted by the States parties will be issued as addenda to document E/1990/6.

29. The initial reports of Luxembourg (E/1990/5/Add.1), Yemen 3/ (E/1990/5/Add.2), Costa Rica (E/1990/5/Add.3) and Dominican Republic (E/1990/5/Add.4) as well as the second periodic report of the Syrian Arab Republic (E/1990/6/Add.1) are pending consideration by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Consideration of the reports of Luxembourg and Yemen was postponed at the fourth session of the Committee at the request of the Governments concerned.

Notes

1/ The Group of Experts was informed at its 1980 session that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran had withdrawn the report concerning rights covered by articles 6 to 9 of the Covenant (see E/1980/60, para. 14).

2/ Not yet issued for technical reasons, in consultation with the reporting State.

3/ As of 22 May 1990 the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic merged into a single sovereign State, the Republic of Yemen, with Sana'a as its capital. The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen had acceded to the Covenant on 9 May 1987. The Yemen Arab Republic was not a State party to the Covenant.

Annex

STATES PARTIES TO THE COVENANT AND STATUS OF SUBMISSION OF REPORTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROGRAMME ESTABLISHED BY ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1988 (LX), DECISION 1985/132 AND RESOLUTION 1988/4

(As of 1 September 1990)

State party	Date of entry into force	INITIAL REPORTS			SECOND PERIODIC REPORTS		
		Articles 6-9 Due 1/9/77 or 1/9/83 a/	Articles 10-12 Due 1/9/79 or 1/9/85 a/	Articles 13-15 Due 1/9/81 or 1/9/87 a/	Articles 6-9 Second periodic reports due 1/9/83	Articles 10-12 Second periodic reports due 1/9/86 b/	Articles 13-15 Second periodic reports due 1/9/89 b/
		(Summary records of consideration of reports)			(Summary records of consideration of reports)		
1. Afghanistan	24 April 1983	E/1984/6/Add.12 (Pending consideration)	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-
2. Algeria	12 December 1989	c/	c/	c/	-	-	-
3. Argentina	8 November 1986	Overdue	c/	E/1988/5/Add.4 E/1988/5/Add.8 (E/C.12/1990/ SR.18-20)	-	-	-
4. Australia	10 March 1976	E/1978/8/Add.15 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.12-13)	E/1980/6/Add.22 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.18)	E/1982/3/Add.9 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.13-14)	E/1984/7/Add.22 (E/1985/WG.1/ SR.17, 18 and 21)	E/1986/4/Add.7 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.10, 11, 13 and 14)	Overdue
5. Austria	10 December 1978	E/1984/6/Add.17 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.3-4)	E/1980/6/Add.19 (E/1981/WG.1/SR.8)	E/1982/3/Add.37 (E/C.12/1988/SR.3)	-	E/1986/4/Add.8 and Corr.1 (E/1986/WG.1/SR.4 and 7)	Overdue
6. Barbados	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.33 (E/1982/WG.1/SR.3)	E/1980/6/Add.27 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.6-7)	E/1982/3/Add.24 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.14-15)	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
7. Belgium	21 July 1983	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-
8. Bolivia	12 November 1982	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-
9. Bulgaria	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.24 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.12)	E/1980/6/Add.29 (E/1982/WG.1/SR.8)	E/1982/3/Add.23 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.11-13)	E/1984/7/Add.18 (E/1985/WG.1/SR.9 and 11)	E/1986/4/Add.20 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.17-19)	Overdue
10. Burundi	9 August 1990	c/	c/	c/	-	-	-
11. Byelorussian SSR	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.19 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.16)	E/1980/6/Add.18 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.16)	E/1982/3/Add.3 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.9-10)	E/1984/7/Add.8 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.13-15)	E/1986/4/Add.19 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.10-12)	E/1990/7/Add.5 (Pending consideration)
12. Cameroon	27 September 1984	Overdue	E/1986/3/Add.8 (E/C.12/1989/ SR.6-7)	Overdue	-	-	-

Annex (continued)

State party	Date of entry into force	INITIAL REPORTS			SECOND PERIODIC REPORTS		
		Articles 6-9 Due 1/9/77 or 1/9/83 a/	Articles 10-12 Due 1/9/79 or 1/9/85 a/	Articles 13-15 Due 1/9/81 or 1/9/87 a/	Articles 6-9 Second periodic reports due 1/9/83	Articles 10-12 Second periodic reports due 1/9/86 b/	Articles 13-15 Second periodic reports due 1/9/89 b/
		(Summary records of consideration of reports)			(Summary records of consideration of reports)		
13. Canada	19 August 1976	E/1978/8/Add.32 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.1-2)	E/1980/6/Add.32 (E/1984/WG.1/SR.4 and 6)	E/1982/3/Add.34 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.13, 15 and 16)	E/1984/7/Add.28 (E/C.12/1989/SR.8 and 11)	Overdue	Overdue
14. Central African Republic	8 August 1981	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-	Overdue
15. Chile	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.10 and 28 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.8-9)	E/1980/6/Add.4 (E/1981/WG.1/SR.7)	E/1982/3/Add.40 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.12-13 and 16)	E/1984/7/Add.1 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.11-12)	E/1986/4/Add.18 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.12-13 and 16)	Overdue
16. Colombia	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.17 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.15)	E/1986/3/Add.3 (E/1986/WG.1/SR.6 and 9)	E/1982/3/Add.36 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.15, 21 and 22)	E/1984/7/Add.21/ Rev.1 (E/1986/WG.1/SR.22 and 25)	E/1986/4/Add.25 (E/C.12/1990/ SR.12-14 and 17)	E/1990/7/Add.4 (Pending consideration)
17. Congo	5 January 1984	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-	-
18. Costa Rica	3 January 1976	d/	d/	d/	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
19. Cyprus	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.21 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.17)	E/1980/6/Add.3 (E/1981/WG.1/SR.6)	E/1982/3/Add.19 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.7-8)	E/1984/7/Add.13 (E/1984/WG.1/SR.18 and 22)	E/1986/4/Add.2 and 26 (E/C.12/1990/SR.2, 3 and 5)	Overdue
20. Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	23 March 1976	E/1978/8/Add.18 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.1-2)	E/1980/6/Add.21 (E/1981/WG.1/SR.3)	E/1982/3/Add.18 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.6-7)	E/1984/7/Add.25 (E/C.12/1987/ SR.12-15)	E/1986/4/Add.15 (E/C.12/1987/ SR.12-15)	E/1990/7/Add.6 (Pending consideration)
21. Democratic People's Republic of Korea	14 December 1981	E/1984/6/Add.7 (E/C.12/1987/ SR.21-22)	E/1986/3/Add.5 (E/C.12/1987/ SR.21-22)	E/1988/5/Add.6 (Pending consideration)	Overdue	-	-
22. Yemen g/	9 May 1987	d/	d/	d/	-	-	-
23. Denmark	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.13 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.10)	E/1980/6/Add.15 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.12)	E/1982/3/Add.20 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.8-9)	E/1984/7/Add.11 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.17 and 21)	E/1986/4/Add.16 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.8-9)	Overdue
24. Dominican Republic	4 April 1978	d/	d/	d/	-	Overdue	Overdue
25. Ecuador	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.1 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.4-5)	E/1986/3/Add.14 (Pending consideration)	E/1988/5/Add.7 (Pending consideration	E/1984/7/Add.12 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.20 and 22)	Overdue	Overdue
26. Egypt	14 April 1982	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-

Annex (continued)

State party	Date of entry into force	INITIAL REPORTS			SECOND PERIODIC REPORTS		
		Articles 6-9 Due 1/9/77 or 1/9/83 a/	Articles 10-12 Due 1/9/79 or 1/9/85 a/	Articles 13-15 Due 1/9/81 or 1/9/87 a/	Articles 6-9 Second periodic reports due 1/9/83	Articles 10-12 Second periodic reports due 1/9/86 b/	Articles 13-15 Second periodic reports due 1/9/89 b/
		(Summary records of consideration of reports)			(Summary records of consideration of reports)		
27. El Salvador	29 February 1980	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-	Overdue
28. Equatorial Guinea	25 December 1987	Overdue	Overdue	c/	-	-	-
29. Finland	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.14 (E/1980/WG.1/SR.6)	E/1980/6/Add.11 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.10)	E/1982/3/Add.28 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.7-8)	E/1984/7/Add.14 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.17-18)	E/1986/4/Add.4 (E/1986/WG.1 SR.8-9 and 11)	E/1990/7/Add.1 (Pending consideration)
30. France	4 February 1981	E/1984/6/Add.11 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.18-19 and 21)	E/1986/3/Add.10 (E/C.12/1989/ SR.12-13)	E/1982/3/Add.30 and Corr.1 (E/1985/WG.1/ SR.5 and 7)	-	-	-
31. Gabon	21 April 1983	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-
32. Gambia	29 March 1979	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	Overdue	Overdue
33. German Democratic Republic	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.8 and Corr.1 (E/1980/WG.1/SR.8)	E/1980/6/Add.6 (E/1981/WG.1/SR.8)	E/1982/3/Add.15 and Corr.1 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.5-6)	E/1984/7/Add.3 and 23 (E/1985/WG.1/ SR.12 and 16)	E/1986/4/Add.11 (E/C.12/1987/ SR.11-12 and 14)	Overdue
34. Germany, Federal Republic of	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.11 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.10)	E/1980/6/Add.10 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.10)	E/1982/3/Add.14 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.17-18)	E/1984/7/Add.24 and Corr.1 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.22-23 and 25)	E/1986/4/Add.10 (E/C.12/1987/ SR.19-20)	Overdue
35. Greece	16 August 1985	Overdue	c/	Overdue	-	-	-
36. Guatemala	19 August 1988	c/ Overdue	c/	c/	-	-	-
37. Guinea	24 April 1978	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	Overdue	-
38. Guyana	15 May 1977	Overdue	Overdue	E/1982/3/Add.5, 29 and 32 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.20 and 22 and E/1985/WG.1/SR.6)	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
39. Honduras	17 May 1981	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-	-
40. Hungary	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.7 (E/1980/WG.1/SR.7)	E/1989/6/Add.37 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.6-7 and 9)	E/1982/3/Add.10 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.14)	E/1984/7/Add.15 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.19 and 21)	E/1986/4/Add.1 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.6-7 and 9)	E/1990/7/Add.10 (Pending consideration)
41. Iceland	22 November 1979	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-	Overdue

Annex (continued)

State party	Date of entry into force	INITIAL REPORTS			SECOND PERIODIC REPORTS		
		Articles 6-9 Due 1/9/77 or 1/9/83 a/	Articles 10-12 Due 1/9/79 or 1/9/85 a/	Articles 13-15 Due 1/9/81 or 1/9/87 a/	Articles 6-9 Second periodic reports due 1/9/83	Articles 10-12 Second periodic reports due 1/9/86 b/	Articles 13-15 Second periodic reports due 1/9/89 b/
		(Summary records of consideration of reports)			(Summary records of consideration of reports)		
42. India	10 July 1979	E/1984/6/Add.13 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.20 and 24)	E/1980/6/Add.34 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.6 and 8)	E/1988/5/Add.5 (E/C.12/1990/ SR.16-17 and 19)	-	Overdue	Overdue
43. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.2 f/	Overdue	E/1982/3/Add.43 (Pending consideration)	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
44. Iraq	3 January 1976	E/1984/6/Add.3 and 8 (E/1985/WG.1/ SR.8 and 11)	E/1980/6/Add.14 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.12)	E/1982/3/Add.26 (E/1985/WG.1/ SR.3-4)	Overdue	E/1986/4/Add.3 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.8 and 11)	Overdue
45. Ireland	8 March 1990	c/	c/	c/	-	-	-
46. Italy	15 December 1978	E/1978/8/Add.34 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.3-4)	E/1980/6/Add.31 and 36 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.3 and 5)	Overdue	-	Overdue	Overdue
47. Jamaica	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.27 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.20)	E/1986/3/Add.12 (E/C.12/1990/ SR.10-12 and 15)	E/1988/5/Add.3 (E/C.12/1990/ SR.10-12 and 15)	E/1984/7/Add.30 (E/C.12/1990/ SR.10-12 and 15)	Overdue	Overdue
48. Japan	21 September 1979	E/1984/6/Add.6 and Corr.1 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.9-10)	E/1986/3/Add.4 and Corr.1 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.20-21 and 23)	E/1982/3/Add.7 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.12-13)	-	-	-
49. Jordan	3 January 1976	E/1984/6/Add.15 (E/C.12/1987/ SR.6-8)	E/1986/3/Add.6 (E/C.12/1987/ SR.8)	E/1982/3/Add.38/ Rev.1 (Pending consideration)	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
50. Kenya	3 January 1976	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
51. Korea	10 July 1990	c/	c/	c/	-	-	-
52. Lebanon	3 January 1976	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
53. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	3 January 1976	Overdue	Overdue	E/1982/3/Add.6 and 25 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.16-17)	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue

Annex (continued)

State party	Date of entry into force	INITIAL REPORTS			SECOND PERIODIC REPORTS		
		Articles 6-9 Due 1/9/77 or 1/9/83 a/	Articles 10-12 Due 1/9/79 or 1/9/85 a/	Articles 13-15 Due 1/9/81 or 1/9/87 a/	Articles 6-9 Second periodic reports due 1/9/83	Articles 10-12 Second periodic reports due 1/9/86 b/	Articles 13-15 Second periodic reports due 1/9/89 b/
		(Summary records of consideration of reports)			(Summary records of consideration of reports)		
54. Luxembourg	18 November 1983	d/	d/	d/	Overdue	-	-
55. Madagascar	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.29 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.2)	E/1980/6/Add.39 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.2-3 and 5)	Overdue	E/1984/7/Add.19 (E/1985/WG.1/ SR.14 and 18)	Overdue	Overdue
56. Mali	3 January 1976	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
57. Mauritius	3 January 1976	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
58. Mexico	23 June 1981	E/1984/6/Add.2 and 10 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.24, 26 and 28)	E/1986/3/Add.13 (E/C.12/1990/ SR.6, 7 and 9)	E/1982/3/Add.8 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.14-15)	-	-	-
59. Mongolia	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.6 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.7)	E/1980/6/Add.7 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.8-9)	E/1982/3/Add.11 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.15-16)	E/1984/7/Add.6 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.16 and 18)	E/1986/4/Add.9 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.5 and 7)	Overdue
60. Morocco	3 August 1979	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	Overdue	Overdue
61. Netherlands	11 March 1979	E/1984/6/Add.14 and 20 (E/C.12/1987/ SR.5-6) (E/C.12/1989/ SR.14-15)	E/1980/6/Add.33 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.4-6 and 8)	E/1982/3/Add.35 and 44 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.14 and 18) (E/C.12/1989/ SR.14-15)	-	E/1986/4/Add.24 (E/C.12/1989/ SR.14-15)	Overdue
62. New Zealand	28 March 1979	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	Overdue	Overdue
63. Nicaragua	12 June 1980	E/1984/6/Add.9 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.16-17 and 19)	E/1986/3/Add.15 (Pending consideration)	E/1982/3/Add.31 and Corr.1 (E/1985/WG.1/ SR.15)	-	-	-
64. Niger	7 June 1986	Overdue	c/	Overdue	-	-	-
65. Norway	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.12 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.5)	E/1980/6/Add.5 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.14)	E/1982/3/Add.12 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.16)	E/1984/7/Add.16 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.19 and 22)	E/1986/4/Add.21 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.14-15)	E/1990/7/Add.7 (Pending consideration)
66. Panama	8 June 1977	E/1984/6/Add.19 (Pending consideration)	E/1980/6/Add.20 and 23 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.5)	E/1988/5/Add.9 (Pending consideration)	Overdue	E/1986/4/Add.22 (Pending consideration)	Overdue

Annex (continued)

State party	Date of entry into force	INITIAL REPORTS			SECOND PERIODIC REPORTS		
		Articles 6-9 Due 1/9/77 or 1/9/83 a/	Articles 10-12 Due 1/9/79 or 1/9/85 a/	Articles 13-15 Due 1/9/81 or 1/9/87 a/	Articles 6-9 Second periodic reports due 1/9/83	Articles 10-12 Second periodic reports due 1/9/86 b/	Articles 13-15 Second periodic reports due 1/9/89 b/
		(Summary records of consideration of reports)			(Summary records of consideration of reports)		
67. Peru	28 July 1978	E/1984/6/Add.5 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.11 and 18)	Overdue	Overdue	-	Overdue	Overdue
68. Philippines	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.4 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.11)	Overdue	E/1988/5/Add.2 (E/C.12/1990/ SR.8-9 and 11)	E/1984/7/Add.4 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.15 and 20)	Overdue	Overdue
69. Poland	18 June 1977	E/1978/8/Add.23 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.18-19)	E/1980/6/Add.12 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.11)	E/1982/3/Add.21 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.9-10)	E/1984/7/Add.26 and 27 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.25-27)	E/1986/4/Add.12 (E/C.12/1989/ SR.5-6)	E/1990/7/Add.9 (Pending consideration)
70. Portugal	31 October 1978	E/1984/6/ Add.16 h/	E/1980/6/Add.35/ Rev.1 (E/1985/WG.1/ SR.2 and 4)	E/1982/3/Add.27/ Rev.1 (E/1985/WG.1/ SR.6 and 9)	-	Overdue	Overdue
71. Romania	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.20 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.16-17)	E/1980/6/Add.1 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.5)	E/1982/3/Add.13 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.17-18)	E/1984/7/Add.17 (E/1985/WG.1/ SR.10 and 13)	E/1986/4/Add.17 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.6)	Overdue
72. Rwanda	3 January 1976	E/1984/6/Add.4 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.10 and 12)	E/1986/3/Add.1 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.16 and 19)	E/1982/3/Add.42 (E/C.12/1989/ SR.10-12)	E/1984/7/Add.29 (E/C.12/1989/ SR.10-12)	Overdue	Overdue
73. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	9 February 1982	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-
74. San Marino	18 January 1986	Overdue	c/	Overdue	-	-	-
75. Senegal	13 May 1978	Overdue	E/1980/6/Add.13/ Rev.1 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.11	E/1982/3/Add.17 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.14-16)	-	Overdue	Overdue
76. Solomon Islands	17 March 1982	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-
77. Somalia	24 April 1990	c/	c/	c/	-	-	-
78. Spain	27 July 1977	E/1978/8/Add.26 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.20)	E/1980/6/Add.28 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.7)	E/1982/3/Add.22 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.10-11)	E/1984/7/Add.2 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.12 and 14)	E/1986/4/Add.6 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.10 and 13)	E/1990/7/Add.3 (Pending consideration)
79. Sri Lanka	11 September 1980	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-	Overdue

Annex (continued)

State party	Date of entry into force	INITIAL REPORTS			SECOND PERIODIC REPORTS		
		Articles 6-9 Due 1/9/77 or 1/9/83 a/	Articles 10-12 Due 1/9/79 or 1/9/85 a/	Articles 13-15 Due 1/9/81 or 1/9/87 a/	Articles 6-9 Second periodic reports due 1/9/93	Articles 10-12 Second periodic reports due 1/9/86 b/	Articles 13-15 Second periodic reports due 1/9/89 b/
		(Summary records of consideration of reports)			(Summary records of consideration of reports)		
80. Sudan	18 June 1986	Overdue	c/	Overdue	-	-	-
81. Suriname	28 March 1977	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
82. Sweden	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.5 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.15)	E/1980/6/Add.8 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.9)	E/1982/3/Add.2 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.19-20)	E/1984/7/Add.5 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.14 and 16)	E/1986/4/Add.13 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.10-11)	E/1990/7/Add.2 (Pending consideration)
83. Syrian Arab Republic	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.25 and 31 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.2)	E/1980/6/Add.9 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.4)	Overdue	e/	e/	e/
84. Togo	24 August 1984	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-	-
85. Trinidad and Tobago	8 March 1979	E/1984/6/Add.21 (E/C.12/1989/ SR.17-19)	E/1986/3/Add.11 (E/C.12/1989/ SR.17-19)	E/1988/5/Add.1 (E/C.12/1989/ SR.17-19)	-	Overdue	Overdue
86. Tunisia	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.3 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.5-6)	E/1986/3/Add.9 (E/C.12/1989/ SR.9)	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
87. Uganda	21 April 1987	Overdue	c/	Overdue	-	-	-
88. Ukrainian SSR	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.22 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.18)	E/1980/6/Add.24 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.5-6)	E/1982/3/Add.4 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.11-12)	E/1984/7/Add.9 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.13-15)	E/1986/4/Add.5 (E/C.12/1987/ SR.9-11)	Overdue
89. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	3 January 1976	E/1978/8/Add.16 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.14)	E/1980/6/Add.13 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.14-15)	E/1982/3/Add.1 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.11-12)	E/1984/7/Add.7 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.9-10)	E/1986/4/Add.14 (E/C.12/1987/ SR.16-18)	E/1990/7/Add.8 (Pending consideration)
90. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	20 August 1976	E/1978/8/Add.9 and 30 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.19 and E/1982/WG.1/ SR.1)	E/1980/6/Add.10 and Corr.1, Add.25 and Corr.1 and Add.26 (E/1981/WG.1/ SR.16-17)	E/1982/3/Add.16 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.19-21)	E/1984/7/Add.20 (E/1985/WG.1/ SR.14 and 17)	E/1986/4/Add.23 (E/C.12/1989/ SR.16-17)	Overdue
91. United Republic of Tanzania	11 September 1976	Overdue	E/1980/6/Add.2 (E/1980/WG.1/ SR.5)	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
92. Uruguay	3 January 1976	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue

Annex (continued)

State party	Date of entry into force	INITIAL REPORTS			SECOND PERIODIC REPORTS		
		Articles 6-9 Due 1/9/77 or 1/9/83 a/	Articles 10-12 Due 1/9/79 or 1/9/85 a/	Articles 13-15 Due 1/9/81 or 1/9/87 a/	Articles 6-9 Second periodic reports due 1/9/83	Articles 10-12 Second periodic reports due 1/9/86 b/	Articles 13-15 Second periodic reports due 1/9/89 b/
		(Summary records of consideration of reports)			(Summary records of consideration of reports)		
93. Venezuela	10 August 1978	E/1984/6/Add.1 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.7-8 and 10)	E/1980/6/Add.38 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.2 and 5)	E/1982/3/Add.33 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.12, 17 and 18)	-	Overdue	Overdue
94. Viet Nam	24 December 1982	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue	-	-
95. Yugoslavia	3 January 1970	E/1978/8/Add.35 (E/1982/WG.1/ SR.4-5)	E/1980/6/Add.30 (E/1983/WG.1/ SR.3)	E/1982/3/Add.39 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.14-15)	E/1984/7/Add.10 (E/1984/WG.1/ SR.16 and 18)	Overdue	Overdue
96. Zaire	1 February 1977	E/1984/6/Add.18 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.16-19)	E/1986/3/Add.7 (E/C.12/1988/ SR.16-19)	E/1982/3/Add.41 (E/C.12/1988 SR.16-19)	Overdue	Overdue	Overdue
97. Zambia	10 July 1984	Overdue	E/1986/3/Add.2 (E/1986/WG.1/ SR.4-5 and 7)	Overdue	-	-	-

a/ Depending on date of entry into force.

b/ See Economic and Social Council decision 1985/132 of 28 May 1985.

c/ Not yet due.

d/ State party has submitted its initial report in accordance with the new reporting programme approved by the Economic and Social Council in paragraph 6 of its resolution 1988/4 of 24 May 1988.

e/ State party has submitted its second periodic report in accordance with the new reporting programme approved by the Economic and Social Council in paragraph 6 of its resolution 1988/4 of 24 May 1988.

f/ Withdrawn.

g/ As of 22 May 1990 the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic merged into a single sovereign State, the Republic of Yemen, with Sana'a as its capital. The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen had acceded to the Covenant on 9 May 1977. The Yemen Arab Republic was not a State party to the Covenant.

h/ Not yet issued for technical reasons, in consultation with the reporting State.